



William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
Department of Mental Health
550 S. Vermont Avenue
Los Angeles, California 90020



Marvin J. Southard, D.S.W.
Director

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

August 13, 2012

CONTACT: Kathleen Piché
213-738-3700

kpiche@dmh.lacounty.gov

Karen Zarsadiaz-Ige

213-351-5297

kzarsadiaz@dmh.lacounty.gov

LACDMH's *PROFILES OF HOPE* RECEIVES EMMY AWARD

Emmy Award is first-ever for the LA County Department of Mental Health.

Los Angeles, CA – The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) has received a prestigious Los Angeles area Emmy Award in the category of Informational/Public Affairs Series for its *Profiles of Hope* series. Winners were announced at the 64th annual Los Angeles area Emmy Awards ceremony in North Hollywood on Saturday, August 11, 2012. Featuring six celebrities and well-known personalities, the original series can be viewed online on the [LACDMH website](http://LACDMHwebsite) and on YouTube.

Profiles of Hope is widely used as a teaching tool to motivate audiences and erase stigma. Funded by the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), *Profiles of Hope* is a set of 10-minute inspirational stories that spotlights high-profile individuals who candidly share how they overcame stigma and various obstacles to live successful and productive lives, and carry on LACDMH's mission of *Hope, Wellness and Recovery*.

Featured are:

- Emmy Award-winning actor **Maurice Benard** who plays Sonny Corinthos on the ABC soap opera *General Hospital*.
- Psychiatrist **Clayton Chau, M.D., Ph.D.**, who co-hosts a weekly television show, *Viet View*, to bring awareness to mental health issues for the Vietnamese community.
- Actor/musician **Robert David Hall** who plays Dr. Albert Robbins on the CBS show *CSI: Las Vegas*.
- Emmy Award-winning actress/author **Mariette Hartley** who has starred on the stage, movies and in television shows for more than 40 years.
- Boxing champion **Mia St. John** who has won three World Boxing Council (WBC) titles.
- U.S. Vets president/CEO **Stephen Peck, M.S.W.**, son of actor Gregory Peck, who is a Vietnam veteran, leading the nation's largest non-profit dedicated to helping vets.

(More)

**Press Release – LACDMH Emmy Award
August 13, 2012 – Page 2**

The Emmy Award-winning *Profiles of Hope* has also received national recognition. The series has been selected to receive a 2012 Voice Awards Honorable Mention from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) at its annual ceremony on Wednesday, August 22, 2012 in Hollywood. And, the *Profiles of Hope* has also been given a first place STAR Award in the category of Special Audience by SCAN-NATOA (States of California and Nevada Chapter of the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors). The STAR Awards recognize excellence in government programming.

The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health is the largest county-operated mental health department in the United States, directly operating 75 program sites and more than 100 co-located sites. Each year, it contracts with approximately 1,000 agencies and individual practitioners to provide a spectrum of mental health services to more than 250,000 residents of all ages. The Department's mission -- enriching lives through partnership to strengthen our community's capacity to support recovery and resiliency -- is accomplished by working with stakeholders and community partners to provide clinically competent, culturally sensitive and linguistically appropriate mental health services to clients in the least restrictive manner possible.

###